



PREFACE

Our Jubilee number requires perhaps a preface at this important period of our history.

The main objective at the moment politically and economically is to adjust our relationships to the new status of what are called the “emerging” independent States of South East Asia—our “Near North.” Japan and Siam with their ancient monarchies can hardly be called “emerging” States, but they, with all of us, are caught up in the turmoil of a transition period that must continue until we all reach a new equilibrium.

Small as well as great efforts are contributing to this solution and, among others, in this State the University of Queensland and the Royal Historical Society of Queensland are providing each their mite.

In June of this year the foundation stone of “International House” was laid at the University and, in 1964, Asian and Australian students will be jointly sharing the house as a residence. Daily relationships must result in closer understanding, greater mutual appreciation and firmer friendships.

With this Society, this Journal itself is a factor for furthering interest and knowledge and has attracted many tributes in that regard. It has been said with some justification that no other similar society in Australia has been so active nor so effective in this direction. Perhaps the significant increase in our membership reflects this to some degree. I trust it does.

It would be a heartening return to those members of our Council and to the Editor whose continued and, may I add, self-denying endeavours, aid these objectives so materially.

R. W. CILENTO,
President.

